

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 1-3, 6-17, 19, 21-24 are allowed.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Regarding claims 1 and 14, the references teach all limitations of the claim except the control signal data in each field including (1) an identifier uniquely identifying the identified user, (2) a first indicator specifying one of an acknowledgment and a negative acknowledgment of a packet transmitted by the identified user and (3) a second indicator specifying the transmit rate at which the identified user is to transmit in the uplink, the first indicator being a first bit value representing either the acknowledgment or the negative acknowledgment, the second indicator being a second bit value representing the transmit rate, the first and second indicators and the identifier being transmitted at the same time.

This taken with other limitations of the dependent claims is considered novel and non-obvious.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Chandrahas Patel whose telephone number is

(571)270-1211. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday 7:30 to 17:00 EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ricky Ngo can be reached on 571-272-3139. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Ricky Ngo/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art
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/Chandahas Patel/
Examiner, Art Unit 2464